



HALE AHI NEWS

September 2006



HFD NEWSLETTER

April - August 2006

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IMPORTANT DATES

- **Muscular Dystrophy Assn Fill the Boot Events 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
Friday, September 1, 2006
Tamarind Park
Saturday, September 2, 2006
Windward City Shopping Center
Sunday, September 3, 2006
Pearl City Shopping Center
- **Monday, September 4, 2006**
Labor Day
- **Friday, September 8, 2006**
HFD Retirees Association Quarterly Meeting
Charles H. Thurston Training Center
- **Sunday, September 10, 2006**
HFD Family Fun Day
Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **October 8-14, 2006**
Fire Prevention Week
- **Tuesday, November 7, 2006**
General Election Day
- **Friday, November 10, 2006**
Veteran's Day (observed)
- **Thursday, November 23, 2006**
Thanksgiving
- **Monday, December 25, 2006**
Christmas

POI BOWL 2006

On July 28, 2006, the City and County of Honolulu (City) conducted a multidiscipline and multi-jurisdictional exercise at the Aloha Stadium. The exercise revolved around the mythical nationally televised Poi Bowl 2006 football game.



It was designed around three separate incidents occurring in the same area almost simultaneously. Incidents included a tanker fire on the Moanalua Freeway near the Aloha Stadium, a bus explosion in the Aloha Stadium parking area prior to the start of Poi Bowl 2006, and a suicide bomber that decides not to detonate and shows up at Gate 7 at the Aloha Stadium.

We hope these incidents never occur, and the objectives of Poi Bowl 2006 were mainly to "exercise" the interoperable communications between various City, State, and Federal responders as well as to assist the City in developing an effective unified command system model.

Joint planning, collaboration, and training were conducted to ensure all agencies received value through their participation in the exercise. Poi Bowl 2006 validated the merits of interoperable communications and demonstrated how it can be an effective tool if managed to meet the needs of the incident. The exercise also demonstrated that joint planning and training is very beneficial for response agencies in our City. Smaller scale exercises and using the tools for daily operations would be an excellent outcome of Poi Bowl 2006.





**PRIDE, SERVICE,
DEDICATION**

Honolulu Fire Department
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Mission Statement

The mission of the Honolulu Fire Department is to respond to fires, emergency medical incidents, hazardous materials incidents, and rescues on land and sea to save lives, property, and the environment. We accomplish this mission by:

- Promoting safety and maintaining a well equipped, highly trained, and motivated force of professional fire fighters and rescue personnel.
- Promoting fire prevention and other public safety education programs.

Vision Statement

The Honolulu Fire Department will continuously strive to meet the changing needs of our community by providing a modern and technologically advanced department. We will do this by maintaining a high level of readiness and by focusing on the professional development and training of all our personnel.

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

I find it hard to believe that I have been on the job for seven months. It seems like only a heartbeat ago since I was sworn in as the Fire Chief. I am constantly amazed at the high level of service all of you provide to our community each and every day. I see clear examples of "Pride, Service, Dedication" through your actions at incidents and at community service events. City Administrators as well as the public are aware of the great work we do serving the community.

We are beyond our first 100 days and I am proud to say that we have completed our 2006-2010 Master Strategic Plan (MSP). The MSP goals are grouped into ten strategic priorities that align with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International's (CFAI) categories. These goals and objectives are further divided into short-, medium-, and long-term goals. In reality, this document is dynamic and subject to periodic changes.

A "100-Day Plan" was employed to launch the new administration and establish a clear vision for the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) within a reasonable time constraint. The MSP is a result of the commitment and input from all levels of the Department and input from entities outside of the Department.

Input for the MSP was a critical element, and the following methods were used:

- **Internal Audit:** An internal audit of the processes used within the HFD was conducted. Everything was scrutinized: payroll, time, and attendance system; procurement process; ordering of fire apparatuses; responsibilities of the Mechanic Shop, Storeroom, and Radio Shop; fire station maintenance; computer use; and internal communication.
- **Review of the CFAI Strategic Plan:** The MSP developed for the 2006-2010 CFAI Accreditation period was reviewed by a committee comprised of members from the four HFD divisions: Fire Operations, Support Services, Planning and Development, and the Administrative Services Bureau.
- **External Audit:** The external audit evaluated the relationships between the HFD and external agencies, organizations, and individuals we deal with on an ongoing basis. The goal was to improve



our overall delivery of service and to evaluate the practices and programs provided by the HFD.

- **Executive Staff Retreat:** The Executive Staff met to create a vision and a game plan for the future of the HFD. The "100-Day Plan" was created with the goal to become the HFD's MSP.
- **Battalion Chief (BC) Workshop:** A workshop was held with the Executive Staff and the HFD BCs. These periodic workshops are necessary to ensure that Chief Officers are current on Department programs and activities. It is a great opportunity to solicit input and for all Chief Officers to be on the "same page."
- **Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA) Meeting:** The Executive Staff met with HFFA representatives to solicit input for the MSP. The goal was to find common ground on issues and programs that were important to both sides. The success of the HFD is due in large part to the ongoing positive relationship between management and labor.

The Executive Staff prioritized the initiatives identified through the inputs, and all of the items identified were laid out in a matrix. The initiatives were assigned to sections of the Department who will be responsible for creating an action plan to accomplish these goals.

Continued on page 3

BN 2/3 Golf Tournament

By FF II Frank Sanchez

On July 14, 2006, fire fighters from Battalion 2 (BN 2), First and Second Platoons, Administration, retirees, and other guests participated in the 5th Annual BN 2/3 Club Golf Tourney. This event is held at the Hawaii Kai Executive Course and is billed for the "junk" golfers. The format includes 2 grenades (where you may throw your tee shot on the green and sign on for the greenie prize) and 2 shoe wedges (where you can kick a tee shot that's close to the green on without penalty and sign off for the greenie prize). As you can imagine, there was much more noise than poise at this tournament.

Following the golf, a luncheon/dinner party was held at Battalion Chief (BC) James Arciero's house. There were 26 prizes awarded by lucky drawing of a player listed as having reached the green on his T-shot. Master of Ceremony and Fire Fighter (FF) III John Collins awarded the prizes, many of which were donated by Bobby Jones - Hawaii, including a brand new driver. FF I Ocean Kaowili, Mr. Gavin Kaina, and FF III James Reyes Jr. delivered fabulous live "chicken skin" Hawaiian music into the night. Various cold refreshments donated by Sam Choy's and Anheuser Busch helped to cool off the red-hot golfers. Outback Steaks and other exotic food preparations by Fire Captain Keith Kondo, with the help from Captain Courtney Seto and Stations 2 and 7, made for some great grinds.



It was a great morale booster to have Fire Chief Kenneth Silva, Deputy Chief Alvin Tomita, BCs Emmitt Kane and Peter Gaskell, and other administrative Captains attend and mingle with us knuckle-dragging Operations personnel.

Mahalo to all of the BN 2 personnel and all 140+ participants who helped make this another great year. Volunteer efforts and monetary support resulted in a check for \$1,200 being sent to Easter Seals Hawaii.

From The Fire Chief

Continued from page 2

Examples:

- Review of Department manuals and Standard Operating Guidelines
- Review and upgrade of the Department's Records Management System
- Establish and maintain a capital improvement priority list for new construction and fire station renovations
- Plan for an upgrade of the HFD training facility
- Establish the Department's daily staffing needs
- Focus HFD training on Core Services
- Create Command Teams for large-scale incidents
- Install automatic apparatus bay door operators for all fire stations
- Develop necessary procedures to address Fair Labor Standards Act Issues
- Continue to develop the certification program to include all levels of the Department
- Complete the Mobile Data Terminals project
- Develop a Department-wide, single-point activity calendar

The MSP is on the HFD server for all members to review. I encourage you to take the time to review it to understand the vision and direction our Department is heading in. I am excited about our future and challenge all of you to maintain a high level of professionalism and integrity on a daily basis. The public deserves the very best we have to offer. Aloha, work together, and be safe.



Hale Kinai Ahi Headquarters Grand Opening

The Department welcomes everyone to a public open house for Hale Kinai Ahi on September 21, 2006. Guided tours will be provided from 12-4 p.m. Hale Kinai Ahi is the first permanent Headquarters for our Department since its 155 year existence. After September 21, 2006, no formal guided tours will be available. This open house is part of the Department's grand opening celebration.

The official Hale Kinai Ahi grand opening ceremony will be held on September 20, 2006. Due to the limited physical capacity of our new Headquarters, the official grand opening is by invitation only.

BN 5/3 ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

By Fire Captain Socrates Bratakos

On July 7, 2006, Battalion (BN) 5/3 held their annual summer picnic at Haleiwa's Alii Beach Park. Traditionally, our annual picnic is a great time to relax, enjoy good food, have fun activities, and camaraderie. This year was no different.



Tents and an inflated bouncer (for the children to jump around in) went up, and we fired up the barbecue grills. Activities included swimming, boogie boarding, kayaking, and horse-shoes. Fire fighters prepared the great food that included beef stew, chili and hot dogs, chicken, macaroni salad, poke, and all sorts of desserts.

We ate too much, played sports, and talked story for hours. As the sun was fading away, the tents came down, the food was put away, the toys were stashed, and everyone said their goodbyes. Another successful picnic was over, and we look forward to repeating it again next year.

HFD Manager and Employees of the Year 2006

The City and County of Honolulu 2006 Outstanding Employees Program will be held on October 30, 2006, at the Neal S. Blaisdell Concert Hall. Honorees from each department will vie for the distinction of City Manager and Employee of the Year. The event is free and open to the public. Here are the Honolulu Fire Department's (HFD) honorees:



Department Manager of the Year: ***Battalion Chief Adam Enos Jr.***

Battalion Chief (BC) Adam Enos Jr. was named Department Manager of the Year for his leadership in planning, designing, and implementing the following important programs:

- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) fit testing program.
- SCBA Users Competency Evaluation program.
- Safe Diving Practices Program for Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA).
- HFD's Maintenance Facility Safety Program.
- Forklift Safety Standard Program.
- Policy and Procedures for Personnel Accountability System.
- Policy and Procedures for Rehabilitation at Incidents.

- Self-Evaluation Program for Fire Station Safety Inspections.
- Hazardous Materials Heavy Metal Testing Program.

In addition to the above-mentioned programs, he assisted the Department with the following:

- Planned and implemented our radio communications conversion to the 800-megahertz (MHz) system. BC Enos volunteered to coordinate the installation of our mobile 800-MHz radios into our fire apparatuses.
- Coordinated the installation of our Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) into our apparatuses.
- Coordinated the installation of the MDT wireless hub (hot spots) into our fire stations in order for our MDT system to work.
- Oversaw the on-site planning and construction of our new headquarters complex, which includes the Fire Education Museum and the renovation of the current Kakaako Fire Station.
- Planned and coordinated our headquarters move from our leased facility to our new facility, which needed to be completed in three days.

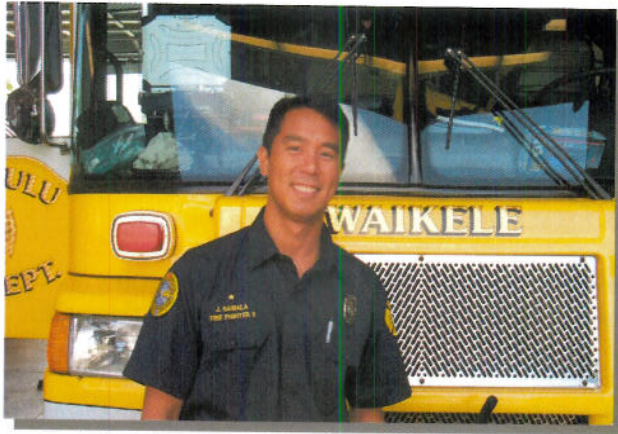
The Department would like to also thank BC Enos for his 32 years and 7 months of dedicated service to the residents of the City and County of Honolulu, as he will be retiring on August 31, 2006. May you enjoy your well deserved retirement years.

Aloha and Best Wishes.



Department Employee of the Year:

FF III Jason Samala



Fire Fighter (FF) III Jason Samala was named Department Employee of the Year for his contributions to the Department and the community. On his off-duty days while at home being "Mr. Mom" to his three very young children, FF Samala developed and wrote a software program to manage the manpower needs in his battalion. This program also included an electronic personal record of the battalion's employees and the certifications that they attained. An added feature of this program provides an advanced pop-up warning of any certification that is due to expire.

The development of this program simplified the method that was in use to manage personnel. Besides being totally electronic, which allows records to be easily transferred with personnel upon reassignment or promotion, it is also able to track vacation and sick leaves, training, classes, or other reasons that personnel are away from their assignments.

The program allows the BC, as Incident Commander, to accurately track personnel at an incident, which provides increased safety and accountability. It also has a report feature that can query multiple employee records such as vacation used, temporary assignments, overtime hours, and training attended.

FF Samala received authorization to develop a Company Officer Assistant program to provide Company Officers the same information for their crews that BCs have. This new program will convert the Department's current Personal Information Record into an electronic format, which will contain all of an employee's personnel information as well as

licenses, certifications, and vacation and sick leaves. It will feature a pop-up warning to alert Company Officers 60 days before any mandatory license of certification is due to expire. The HFD will be able to modify this program to grow with our changing needs.

Department Civilian Employee of the Year:

Personnel Clerk Lynette Shim



Personal Clerk I Lynette Shim, our Department Civilian Employee of the Year, is a key member of the Department's personnel section. Lynette, or "Aunty" as she is affectionately known throughout the Department, has consistently provided outstanding performance. She is an employee who gets the job done and has long been recognized by her supervisors as a diligent and industrious person in whatever she undertakes.

Her career with the Department began as a Senior Clerk-Typist at the Mechanic Shop in 1987. She demonstrated strong organizational skills and a "can-do" attitude and proved to be someone to be counted on for complex and difficult tasks without guidance or much supervision. In 1993, Lynette was promoted to a Personnel Clerk I in the Administrative Services Bureau and continues to produce the quality and quantity of work that is required. She is a crucial and valuable member of a very fast track, vital section in the Department and she handles staff in a firm and consistent manner.

CONGRATULATIONS!

RETIREEES' REALM

By Fire Captain Gideon Awa, Retired

Retirees' meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 8, 2006, at 9 a.m. at the Charles H. Thurston Training Center. The Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Retirees Association invites all newly retired members to join fellow retirees as "new" members of the Association.

Legislative Update: The 23rd Legislative Session has ended, and the bills that passed will have little impact on retirees. Bills that the Governor signed are:

1. Relating to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF)

- a. **Act 39, HB2309:** Permits the EUTF to require individuals who become eligible for Medicare Part B reimbursements on or after July 1, 2006, to accept direct deposit of Medicare reimbursements to a financial institution of their choice.
- b. **Act 167, SB2021 SD2 HD2 CD1:** Allows a retired public employee who relocates outside of the coverage area of the EUTF to be reimbursed for securing a personal health insurance policy.

2. Relating to the Employees' Retirement System (ERS)

- a. **Act 40, HB2311 HD1:** Members of the ERS who received in-service refunds of pension contributions are excluded from the hybrid retirement plan. The bill repeals the provision for hardship withdrawal of ERS contributions.
- b. **Act 169, SB2273 SD2 HD1 CD1:** Adds a definition of "child or children" to conform to administrative interpretation and includes in the definition: children living with an ERS member in a regular parent-child relationship for whom the member is the guardian or has legal and physical custody pursuant to a valid court order.

EUTF: There is an updated information booklet from the EUTF entitled, "Retirement Benefit Information Booklet for State and County Employees, July 2006." Topics covered in the booklet are: Medicare eligibility, Medicare Part B, and Medicare Part D Prescription Drugs Program. For more information call: 586-7390 or toll free: 1-800-295-0089; or send an e-mail to: eutf@hawaii.gov; or go to: www.eutf.Hawaii.gov.

Medicare Plan "B": For more information, go to www.medicare.gov/default.asp.

Firemen's Fund Policy: The Retirees Association reminds retirees of the following Firemen's Fund Policy:

1. **Review any change to your benefits relating to the Firemen's Fund Policy.** (i.e. insurance policy; membership dues and funeral benefits (Plans A - burial in a plot owned by the fund or Plan B - other burial or disposal of ash/total benefits and additional funeral benefits for your spouse or dependent children).
2. **Update any of your personal information with the Firemen's Fund.**
Information that may need updating could be your beneficiary, change of address, or any other pertinent information.

HFD Retirees Association: The Retirees Association continues to seek correspondence from retirees as to their location and any other information they wish to share. Contact Retired Fire Chief Donald Chang at 808-487-8862.



What Did You Do Before You Entered the Honolulu Fire Department?

By Fire Captain Socrates Bratakos

Usually, one of the first things that happens when a new Fire Fighter Recruit is assigned to a fire station is a conversation regarding what they did before coming into the Department. I think we do that so that we have some insight into what kind of person they are and what kind of resource they may be for us in various situations if the need arises.

I asked this question to the newly hired personnel who recently got assigned to Station 41/3. The partial list of careers amongst the seven of us includes: shelf stocker, lifeguard, carpenter, house painter, tropical fish collector, waiter, tour guide, gas station attendant, car rental agency manager, fry cook, physical therapist, warehouse man, purchasing clerk, evidence photographer, scoreboard installer, retail salesperson, substitute teacher, registered nurse, soldier, and emergency medical technician.

All of us labored in construction at some time in our working lives before we became fire fighters. Our collective experience includes: general construction, masonry, carpentry, drywall, plumbing, painting, and roofing. Also, everyone was a college student for a period of time ranging from a couple of years of study to a Masters degree.

All of these different experiences led us to the same point: becoming a fire fighter. Being a fire fighter is our career, our primary job, and our main means of earning a living, however it doesn't hurt that we came to this job with some extra skills and knowledge. We knew how to work with our hands and what hard labor entails. We knew how to study difficult materials and how to apply that information in real life. We knew how to deal with people under stressful situations and still retain our composure. All of these abilities remain very useful as we progress through our assignments within the Department.

Most of us are still working outside our regular schedule. Some of us still do those jobs which we learned before coming into the Department. Some of us are available for overtime recall assignments. Some of us are working on our home remodeling projects or babysitting children. One of us has gone back to college. Some of us are volunteers for community groups or projects.

Fire fighters are people with a variety of skills, knowledge, and experiences. We are just the personnel from one station on one shift. Multiply those by 42 stations, three shifts, and add in the bureaus. People within the Department are like a giant encyclopedia of life and solutions. It is no wonder that no matter what the problem is, it seems that a fire fighter can solve it. That doesn't mean that we jack-of-all-trades types can go it alone; we often need help from other professionals. But it does mean that we often have a good start on making other people's problems better, which is after all, exactly what we do!

PROACTIVE

By FF III Michael Waggoner

Engine (E)13...sleepy little ol' Kahuku Fire Station...most fire fighters in the Department think of Kahuku Fire Station as a retirement home. Well, it may have been that way until Battalion Chief (BC) Lionel Camara Jr. was assigned to the Third Battalion (BN) and Fire Captain Brian Chang assumed command of E13/2 following their stints at the Training Bureau and Research Bureau (TRB). BC Camara and Captain Chang forged a close relationship while assigned to TRB and each has a deep respect for the other.

With the 2006 brush fire season in full swing, BC Carmara offered services from his fire companies to BN 4 when needed, which gave BN 4 additional manpower to fight those relentless fires. It also provided BN 3 with extra brushfire experience. E13/2 was one of the "go to" companies that BC Camara utilized during those fire, and Captain Chang and his crew were more than eager to do whatever it took to accomplish the job. Being dropped off by Air 1 in the back of Nanakuli Valley at the very top of the mountain bordering the forest preserve and then hiking while extinguishing hot spots was "good fun" to Captain Chang. With anticipation building for what this year's round of "summer fun" might be in store for BN 3, Captain Chang and his crew started assessing and planning for a brushfire in their backyard.



Chief Lionel Camara

You would be amazed at how much territory there is behind Laie and Kahuku. On average, it is five miles from the seashore to the spine of the Koolau Mountain Range. From Waile'e Beach Park, at one end of E13's first-in area, to Pounders Beach, located at the opposite end, it is about 15 miles. E13 is responsible for a good 75 square miles of rugged terrain. "So what?" you may ask. "Not that many people are up there, and how are any brush fires going to start in those hills?" Well, the hills behind Kahuku and Laie are designated by the U.S. military as the Kahuku Training Area. The military used this area for many years for training. While beginning to preplan our area and after visiting "Range Control" headquarters, Captain Chang learned that the U.S. Army may be utilizing the Kahuku Training Area more often with the projected arrival of the Stryker Brigade.

Over the years, training exercises took place in the Kahuku Training Area and on occasion, incendiary devices led to numerous brush fires. Captain Chang knows all too well that there are many roads within Range Control, and good maps of the area are few. E13 went on many wild goose chases over the years. Trying to get to where the smoke and fire is within the Kahuku Training Area can be frustrating for those with intimate first-hand knowledge of its terrain. A fire apparatus can go only so far before the road narrows, and you've got to know the lay of the land before you head into those hills if you intend to quickly put a fire out.

So, how do you preplan such terrain? Air 1 is a possible resource, however the canopy can be thick enough to hide a road, including roads that haven't been accessed for many years and are now overgrown. A fire apparatus can go in only so far, and hiking would take too much time. All terrain vehicles (ATV) seemed to be the answer and was shot down. Hmmmm, what to do...fire fighters, as we all know, can be a crafty breed when needed, so "proactiveness" seemed to be the mantra of the hour as BC Camara and Captain Chang took matters into their own hands.

Few in the Department know that Captain Chang is an accomplished farrier and Paniolo. However, at this stage in Captain Chang's life, horses are out and 650 cc's of wild motorcycle known as the "Red Bull" are in. BC Camara also rides ATVs and dirt bikes, so E13/2 caught the dirt bike fever from Captain Chang. What better way to preplan Range Control than on dirt bikes? The motorcycles would enable us to cover a lot of territory in a short amount of time, and even if the roads were overgrown or washed out, they wouldn't present a problem for a vehicle as maneuverable as a dirt bike. After getting the blessing of Range Control supervisor Mr. Ray Irie to conduct the preplan, Captain Chang called on his good friend Buddy Geller to loan him a couple of extra bikes for those fire fighters who haven't yet taken out their Rescue Loans at the Credit Union. He also extended the invitation to a few other Department personnel who he knew would jump at the chance to ride in an area that is normally off-limits.



Captain Brian Chang, FFs Kamu Chun (Quad) and Russell Lake

The morning of our "off-duty stealth" preplan arrived, and the 6:30 a.m. wake-up bop was replaced by a few blasts of the throttle as the tail pipe of a 650 cc bike was strategically placed at the open door entrance of the men's dorm.

Acting in advance to deal with an expected difficulty

Continued from page 8

Later that morning, the rear of Station 13 was buzzing with the excitement of pickup trucks and trailers full of dirt bikes. By 9:00 a.m., 13 of us drove to Charlie Gate near Marconi Road to access area C2 of the Kahuku Training Area. The group included BC Camara and his nephew Rob Campbell of the Honolulu Police Department; Captain Chang, FF III Mike Waggoner, and FF Is Russell Lake, Russell Marchan, and Kamuela Chun. Also from E13/1 were FF Is Jeff Wallace and Eric Hammond (Thank you, Chief Keliipio). From BN 5 there were Captain Kevin Chow and FF I Kevin Akiona from Station 20. And we can't forget FF I Keoni Abaya of E1/2 or FF III Tex Bruffey from E16/2.

Mr. Irie and his Range Control staff provided us with a map of the Kahuku Training Area, however they warned us that some of the roads had become impassable due to the heavy rains and other roads were over grown from years of neglect. Our goal was to mark the roads that were passable for our fire apparatuses, mark potential LZs for helicopter operations, find out which roads were still passable, learn more about the lay of the land, and estimate what type of fuel load we could expect.



The gang from 3rd Battalion, 2nd Platoon

The weather was perfect for riding with scattered clouds and cool trade winds. The trails had been wet down ever so slightly by a small squall in the early morning hours. Twelve motorcycles and one lonely quad proceeded to area C2. We then headed north towards E11's first-in area, traversing areas B2 and B1. After an hour's ride along a windy and sometimes slippery jeep trail that seemed to snake up, down, and around for that seemed like miles, we found ourselves at Hotel Gate in area A1 bordering the Kahuku dirt bike track and just east of the Paumalu and Pupukea highlands. We had a nice view of Kaena Point and Waimea Bay from Hotel Gate, but we couldn't spend too much time enjoying the view, as we had lots of ground to cover in the opposite direction. After a short break, we headed back towards Kahuku, retracting our route while meticulously checking out the small roads and trailheads that shot off of the established jeep trail that we were on.

After another two hours or so of riding, we came down into Ohia'ai gulch in Area C1, where we stumbled upon a massive washout in the road. A ditch 25 feet across and at least 15-20 feet deep prevented us from going any further. Evel Knievel and his Snake River Canyon rocket might have cleared the chasm that faced us, but no one in our group was willing to give it a shot. A few hardy souls ventured off into unknown territory in hopes of finding a way across the riverbed, and the first person who found the way to the other side is still being debated. The route to the other side had a few technical portions that were rather tricky, which proved to be a challenge for those of us who do not ride on a regular basis (some riders were on their first or second rides). Eventually everyone made it to the other side of the washout, and we were able to continue with our preplan.

Viewing Kahuku and Laie from high up in the hills gave us a unique perspective of our first-in area. It made us appreciate the mass amount of land that exists between the ocean and the Koolau summit ridge in this end of BN 3. The thought of a potential brush fire in this very difficult terrain humbled all of us. The local knowledge of the aina that Captain Chang and FF I Wallace brought with them (both are long-time residents of Laie and Kahuku) enabled us to pinpoint our locations based on their observations of landmarks and other geographical features.

After a few more hours of riding and preplanning, we began to make our descent from the hills towards the ocean. We finally came out of the hills on the Laie side of Station 13, where we hit Kamehameha Highway. What a sight it must have been for startled motorists as dirt bikers and a single quad blitzed down the highway back to the fire station.

Captain Chang and his crew prepared a bar-b-que feast fit for a king the night before, and as we set up the grill in the back of the station under the shade tree, the camaraderie began to flow as stories and tales of the day's events were rehashed for all to laugh at. Captain Akiona and his first watch crew joined us in the grinds and as the afternoon sun began to set, all of us were convinced that we had done a great job in preplanning the Kahuku Training Area. We also knew that when we are called to fight a brush fire in that area, we will have the knowledge to quickly and efficiently put the fire out once we arrive on scene.

pro ac tive or pro-ac tive

"Getting to know your first-in area via dirt bike, priceless."

pro ac tive adj. Acting in advance to deal with an expected difficulty

"Getting to know your first-in area via dirt bike, priceless"

LAST ALARM

Fire Captain Bryant M. Feary

Appointed July 3, 1959

25 years

Last assignment: Fire Communication Center

Fire Fighter III Andrew J. Low

Appointed July 16, 1967

25 years, 4 months

Last assignment: Engine 12/1

Fire Captain Warren E. Muller

Appointed January 4, 1971

29 years, 6 months

Last assignment: Fire Communication Center

Fire Captain Richard Oba

Appointed March 1, 1962

24 years, 9 months

Last assignment: Engine 10/2

Fire Captain Tetsuo Yanagida

Appointed August 22, 1953

25 years, 4 months

Last assignment: Engine 16/1

RETIREMENTS

Battalion Chief Adam H. Enos Jr.

January 16, 1974 - August 31, 2006

32 years, 7 months

Fire Captain David C. Friedemann

February 20, 1979 - March 31, 2006

27 years, 1 month

Fire Captain Kennard Y. T. Kong

April 16, 1984 - July 31, 2006

22 years, 3 months

Fire Captain Edmund K. Lee

July 1, 1981 - July 31, 2006

25 years, 1 month

Fire Captain Richard Y. Sun Jr.

November 18, 1974 - August 31, 2006

31 years, 9 months

MAHALO and ALOHA

PROMOTIONS and NEW HIRES

Fire Captain

Robert Abbley

Terio Bumanglag Jr.

Raul Fallau

Gregory Ikeda

Ryan Kaleo

Michael Kaneshiro

Wayne Masuda

Mark Nakagawa

Kim Rogge

Thomas Simon

Scot Suiso

Fire Fighter III

Mark K. Adams

Michael Bunner

Ryan Chong

Joseph Condlin

Keith Condon

Andrew Fukuda

Regienaldo Gawiran

Shermaih Iaea III

David Jenkins

Ernest Kaneshiro

Jeffrey LePage

Mark Ogozo

Jay Peloso

Jason Samala

Elden Tanaka

Stewart Williams Jr.

Kalu Wolfe



NEW HIRES

Mechanical Repairer

Cornelio Burdett

Fire Equipment

Mechanic

Jarvis Cruz

Aaron Verdugo



Safety Specialist

Michele Freitas

Senior Clerk-Typist

April Gillia

TRANSITION TO THE FIREHOUSE

By Fire Fighter Recruits (FFR) Edward Hofstra, Christopher Flores, and Daniel Schenbeck

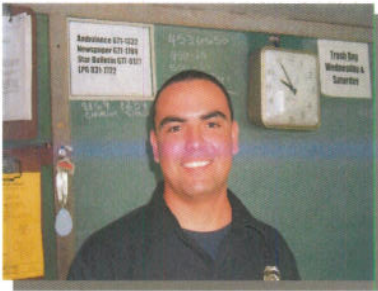
FFR Edward A. Hofstra, E28/3

The day I was waiting and training for, eight months after hearing my Recruit Training Officer say, "It's a great great day to be a fire fighter" had finally arrived. I was assigned to the Nanakuli Fire Station, Station 28, as a new FFR. On my first day at the station, I was performing my apparatus duties and suddenly a car approached the front entrance of the fire station, and an elderly man and woman got out of their car to seek help. The elderly man had a bloodstained towel wrapped around his left hand and told me his dog bit him. I quickly shouted "still alarm" and located the Department's trauma bag. The training that I received at the Charles H. Thurston Fire Training Center became a reality, and those training memories flowed back to my head to apply direct pressure and elevate his hand to stop the bleeding, which is what I did. Shortly after, I was relieved to see the ambulance arrive to take the elderly man to the hospital. Soon after that still alarm, our crew received alarms for medical assist for a person having chest pains, an unknown medical, and a false alarm for a brush fire. Later that evening, around midnight, I awoke to the sound of the alarm for a person having chest pains and I was off to another incident. My Captain asked me if I was a black sheep.



The transition from FFR training to actually working within the firehouse can be more stressful than being situated at the training classes. Now that I am performing these actual tasks that I learned as a FFR, learning how to cook, and being a part of a crew, I feel fortunate to be assigned to Station 28 because I know I will be up to speed and will not run for take out.

FFR Christopher M. K. Flores, E42/3



Talk about jumping into reality, the firehouse is a big difference from the structured training environment that I was used to where you are given hands-on directions on how to do what needs to be done. I went from sleeping well at night due to exhaustion during training to broken sleep waiting to hear the alarm. For fear of not hearing any alarms, I tossed and turned. The non-fire tasks during training paid off at the firehouse. The firehouse is unstructured and there are unwritten rules on how to live within the firehouse. Some of these rules are not universal because there are various ways to do your job with different interpretations, such as the lesson of locking your locker or pay to get your shoes back, flag and trash duty, and turning off the lights when not in use. However, the overall training was still definitely worth it.

FFR Daniel K. Schenbeck, E24/3

Well, it was my first day at the station and I was nervous as hell! I did not have to cook for the past five years, and I could already tell that the guys were going to play jokes on me. Our crew at E24/3rd is cool. The fire fighters are teaching me tasks that I did not learn while in training and are giving me plenty advice. It has been several weeks on the job and I know I still have to speed it up a little; there is so much to absorb. During my first cycle, I had six alarms: two small fires, one structure fire (that one got my adrenalin pumped but it turned out to be a false alarm), and the other three were for medicals. The crew is helpful about my cooking, and I appreciated that they did not throw me out to cook on my own right away. I pretty much watched and helped them prepare the meals. By the second cycle, I was being called "the black cloud," having an average of five alarms per day. My Captain told me that by the end of my second cycle, we already had 32 alarms! He also started making me lead the medicals to get more experience. At first I was a little hesitant to ask questions and make moves to take vitals, but my crew kept motivating me to move quicker and not waste time asking questions that weren't relevant to the situation. By the third and fourth cycle, I became a little more relaxed and the medicals were becoming a routine. As of now, I have had about four fires and it feels like a thousand medical calls. I am still waiting for the "BIG ONE." And by the way, I added a few new recipes to what I already had and cooked a couple times alone. For me, the firehouse is similar to the FFR training class but has no room for error. It's the real thing.



ANNIVERSARIES APRIL - AUGUST

30 Years

**Eric Adams Jr.
Stephen Barrett Jr.
Robert Butchart
Stephen Johnson
Paul Kahele
Gerald Komine
Vernon Maguire
Gary Pardy
Duncan Seto
Robert Thomas**

25 Years

**Robert Aubuchon
Warren Aki
Sheldon Horiuchi
Ronald Johnson
Edmund Lee
Harryson Nicholas
Ben Suiso
Edmund Suzuki
Jeffrey Tilley**



20 Years

**Charles Booth
John Bredin
Kevin Browne
Lionel Camara Jr.
Brian Emmons
Stuart Hee
Emmit Kane
Byron Kaneshiro
Robert Methered
William Neves
Darryl Terada
Terry Seelig
Garwin Souza
Dave Takehara
David Wayman**



10 Years

Edison Rabang

5 Years

**Keith Shinsato
Young Paek
Guy Takeya**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS-BASIC (EMT-B)

By Fire Captain Ronald Hashimoto

The third Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Incumbent Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) course was conducted from May 8 - June 2, 2006. On June 4-5, 2006, 18 HFD members were tested and certified as National Registry of EMT-Bs at Kapiolani Community College. This brings the HFD's certified EMT-B number to 382 members. A big Mahalo to our hard working and knowledgeable instructors. Congratulations to the Department's newest EMT-Bs:

Captain John Bredin, E20/1
Captain Eric Capllonch, L2/1
Captain Joseph Kemmler Jr., E8/1
Captain Wayne Masuda, TRB
Captain Luke Sakanashi, L30/1
Captain Paul Stankiewicz II, E36/1
FF III Sean Arakaki, Q12/1
FF III Jay Ishihara, FPB
FF III Gardner Kealoha, FCC/C
FF III Thomas McKee, E19/1
FF III William Steinke Jr., T26/3
FF III Craig Uchimura, E42/1
FF I Primo Bailon, E38/1
FF I Mark Bates, E1/1
FF I Dustin Cabatu, E20/2
FF I Glen Camp, L17/1
FF I Clarence Jenks, E40/1
FF I Darren Yuu, E42/3

